

Subject: Sun Yat Sen coins

Kuhr, Werner H.

1925

[J. Wild + Co.

230 Sth Ave]

New York July 18/25

Mr. Newell,

President of American Numismatic
Society.

New York.

Dear Sir,

The name and address of your
Society has been given me through
the advertising manager of the Times
and a secretary at the Metropolitan
Museum as a medium through
which I can get in touch with
or obtain the names of private
collectors of coins.

A friend of mine from
China wishes to dispose of a
very unique coin, for which
dealers have been offering him
£500.- and £700.-; He does not
wish to part with it, however,
for less than \$1000.-, so if

You think any of your members
would be interested, I shall be
glad to give you particulars of
the merits of the coin.

Hoping you will favour me
with a reply.

I am,

Yours truly,

Wm. H. Kuhr.

Adr.

W. H. Kuhr

% J. WILD & Co

230 - 5. AVE.

N. Y. City

July 23, 1925

W. H. Kuhn, Esq.
J. Wild & Co.
230 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Sir:

Mr. Newell has handed me your letter to answer.
As you do not state at all what the coin is we can give
you no definite information.

If you will send us description or photograph of
this coin, we will be very glad to help you.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator

Att. Mr. Howland Wood.

New York July 25/25

The American Numismatic Society,
New York.

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your kind letter
of the 23rd inst.

About the coin: -

At the revolution
in China 1911 the old Imperialistic Govern-
ment was overthrown and China declar-
ed a Republic under the leadership
of the late Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who was
elected President, the first President of
the Republic of China.

The day of his inauguration, his
wife, Mrs. Sun Loong Chung Ling, held a
bazaar in connection with the inaugural
function at the old military governor's
Yamen in Canton, to which foreign
business men also were invited.

On this occasion Mrs. Sun induced
my friend Mr. Jappesen to buy - at a
rather exorbitant price - "the very first
coin ever minted in China as a Republic"

- and this is the coin in question, a Sun Yat Sen silver dollar.

The government mint had not had time to finish more than 6 coins of the issue in time for this day, according to the president's own statement, and unfortunately for President Sun already the second day after his inauguration a counterrevolution, originated by the adherents of the old regime, forced him out of office and power - never to possess presidential honours again!

The mint and the arsenal were taken by his enemies, and the balance of the bullion intended for his commemorative issue was turned into ordinary Mexican dollars.

Thus only 6 coins were minted and both Mr. Jephson and I, who have spent many years in China, have been unable to trace the whereabouts of the other 5, so we believe with some justification that they remained in the possession of some Chinese official, who will never part with them, and they may remain hidden in China forever.

President Sun Yat Sen is now dead, which of course makes this unique specimen

Still more valuable, in as much as there always was a chance of another Sun Yat Sen issue so long he was alive.

To prove the genuineness of the coin, which otherwise might easily be doubted, there being none in the market or in collectors' possession, Mr. Jeygusun had President Sun Yat Sen write and personally sign a letter to this effect on the official paper of the Republic. It reads :-

"This is the first coin minted to
"commemorate the Republic of
"China, and was bought by Mr.
"Jeygusun at The Komin's War Re-
"lief Bazaar."

(sign.) Sun Yat Sen

President of the Republic of China

(sign.) Sun Hoong Chungking

President of the Komin's War
Relief Association.

For a collector of autographs I suppose this letter would be of considerable value, but Mr. Jeygusun has had the coin and letter framed together, and will

send it to me, if I can find a buyer at
the price mentioned.

Hoping this information is ex-
hausting, and that you can see your
way clear to assist me in disposing
of the coin, I am now looking for-
ward to hear from you on the sub-
ject at an early opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Werner H. Kuhn.

% J. WILD & Co.

230-5. AVE.

N.Y. City.

July 27, 1925

Werner H. Kuhr, Esq.
J. Wild and Co.
230 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Sir:

I read your letter with much interest. The coin is nothing that we care about.

There seems to be quite a discrepancy between your description of the Sun Yat Sen coins and the facts. I am enclosing some rubbings of the different silver pieces in circulation, none of which are rare. At one time, great quantities of these came to this country. There are two types of the dollar, one with "memento", the other with "one dollar" as shown in the rubbings. There is also a twenty cent piece. Both of the memento coins were struck in gold in limited numbers and a few of each size are in this country. I cannot, therefore, see how six coins only of Sun Yat Sen were struck.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator

BOSTON,
93 SUMMER STREET.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
658 MISSION STREET.

NEW YORK,
230 FIFTH AVENUE.

CHICAGO,
116 SO WELLS ST.

KOBE, JAPAN

HONG KONG

CANTON, CHINA

M. H. Kuhn
% Joseph Wild & Co.

HENRY MACKAY.
CHARLES F. CARTLEDGE.
JOHN N. BOYD
HENRY MACKAY, JR.

CABLE ADDRESS
WILD-NEW YORK

NEW YORK, July 28

Howland Wood, Esq.

The American Numismatic Society.

Dear Sir,

I must apologize for my
apparent impropriety. I am
referring your remarks to the
owner of the coin together with
the rubbings, and unless his coin
is of quite a different type, all
I can say is that Mr. Sun
was a very smart business man.
He got \$400.- out of Mr. Jepsen
for it. - And his letter at least is
genuine and exceptional, if
his dollar isn't!

Yours truly
M. H. Kuhn